

REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR
TO THE
CANNOCK
Urban Sanitary Authority,
FOR THE YEAR 1894.



CANNOCK :

A. WITHINGTON, GENERAL PRINTER, MARKET PLACE.

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GENTLEMEN,

Births.

In this my seventeenth Annual Report to your Authority, for the year ended December 31st, 1894, I have to state that the number of Births registered as having occurred in your District during the year is 438 males and 402 females, total 840, which, taking the population at 21,000, as estimated to the middle of the year, gives a birth-rate of 40 per thousand, living; against 458 males and 430 females, total 888, with a birth-rate of 42·28 for the previous year.

Deaths

The number of Deaths registered as having occurred during the same period, at all ages, is 193 males and 138 females, total 331, with a death-rate per thousand of population of 15·76, against 223 males and 200 females, total 423, with a death-rate at per thousand of population of 20·14 in 1893.

During the past year we have had to contend with an out-break of Small-pox, which, I am happy to say, through timely precautions taken in establishing a small-pox hospital, in conjunction with the Rural Sanitary Authority, has not added materially to the mortality, there having been but two fatal cases, one in a infant of three months.

Infant
Mortality.

There have been one hundred and thirty-one deaths under one year of age, one of these, belonging to the district, having occurred in the small-pox hospital, all the others in the district, with a death-rate of 6.2 per thousand of population, against one hundred and seventy-one, with a death rate of 8.14 per thousand, in 1893, and a death-rate of 15.595 per cent on the number born during the year; against one hundred and seventy-one, with a death-rate of 19.25 per cent. on the number born during the year, and a death-rate of 7.19 per thousand, and 17.82 per cent. on the mean of this and the preceding year.

Of these deaths, one is due to Small-pox, one to Whooping-cough, four to Diarrhoea, thirty-six to Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy, one Injury and eighty-eight all other diseases; against one to Erysipelas, eleven to Measles, eighteen to Diarrhoea, and Dysentery, seventeen to Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy, one hundred and twenty-four to all other diseases in 1893.

The following table shews the number of Deaths which have occurred in children during the first year of life, with the death-rate at per thousand of population, also the rate per cent. on the number born during the year, and the mean of each and its preceding year, for the ten years 1885 to 1894:—

	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894
Deaths under 1 year	116	119	117	111	105	107	192	164	171	131
Death rate at per 1000 of population in Children under 1 year of age	6.8	7	6.88	6.34	6	5.24	9.22	7.8	8.11	6.2
Death rate per cent. on number born during the year	14.09	13.58	16.2	15.52	14.22	12.76	21.89	18.11	19.25	15.595
Death rate per cent. on mean of number born during each & its preceding year	13.6	13.11	16.34	15.94	14.87	12.64	16.78	20	18.61	17.82

- Small Pox.** There have been two deaths from Small-pox during the year, there not having been any deaths from the same cause since 1888, when there were also two deaths. The disease (a few cases of which occurred in the district from the beginning of January to the first week in June, was fully reported to your Board as well as to the Local Government Board at the time) has not been present during the latter half of the year.
- Scarlatina.** Four deaths, two under and two over five years of age, are referred to Scarlatina, a ratio at per thousand of population of $\cdot 19$; against eight deaths, five under and three over five years, with a ratio of $\cdot 33$ per thousand in the previous year.
- Diphtheria** There has not been any death from Diphtheria; against one from this cause in 1893.
- Membranous Croup** There has been one death under five years of age from Croup; against one over five in the preceding year.
- Fevers Enteric** One death over five years is attributed to Enteric Fever; against none in the previous year.
- Puerperal** No death is referred to Puerperal Fever; against one from the disease in 1893.
- Erysipelas** There has not been any death from Erysipelas; against two, one under and one over five years of age, in the previous year.
- Measles** No death has occurred from Measles during the year; against thirty-five, thirty-four under, and one over five years of age, from the same cause in 1893.
- Whooping Cough** Three deaths, all under five years of age, are referable to Whooping Cough; against none from the disease in the previous year.
- Diarrhoea** Eight deaths, six under and two over five years, one of the latter in the Workhouse, not belonging to the

District, but Acton Trussell, are attributable to Diarrhœa &c., a ratio of 38 per thousand of population; against twenty-seven deaths, twenty-four under and three over five years of age, with a ratio at per thousand of 1.28, in 1893. The deaths from this cause are so comparatively few as compared with some previous years, more especially 1893, as to call for no comment as to locality or season.

Rheumatic
Fever

There is one death from Rheumatic Fever, over five years of age; against four for the previous year, all over five years.

Phthisis

Twelve deaths have resulted from Phthisis, all over five years of age, a ratio of 57 per thousand of population; against thirteen, with a ratio per thousand of 619, in 1893. Of these deaths, the first occurred on 12th of January, and the last on 17th of October, so that for about one quarter of the year the district was exempt from any death from this cause. Of the above, six were males and six females, and of the former, one was a weighing-machine clerk, aged 26 years, a resident of Mill Street, Cannock; a second, a miner, aged 17 years, of Hightown; a third, an edge-tool grinder, aged 50 years, of Spring Terrace, Cannock; a fourth, a labourer, of Cannock Wood, aged 33 years; a fifth, a butcher, of Market Place, Cannock, aged 36 years; and sixth, an edge-tool grinder, of Caxton Buildings, Cannock, aged 56 years. Of the females, the first was a married woman, aged 23, of Chadsmoor; the second, a single woman, aged 20 years, of Mill Street, Cannock; the next, a married woman, aged 26 years, of Price Street, Cannock; next, a single woman, 23 years of age, of Bridgtown; next, a married woman, aged 33 years, of Hednesford; and last, a married woman, 48 years of age, at Walsall-road, Cannock.

Bronchitis
Pneumonia, and
Pleurisy

From Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy, there have been fifty-five deaths under, and thirty-six over five years of age, in the district, and two over five years in the

Workhouse, both belonging to the district, total ninety-three, a ratio at per thousand of population of 4.42; against a total of seventy-nine from the same causes, with a ratio of 3.76 per thousand living, in the previous year. During the past year there has not been any pronounced epidemic of either Measles or Influenza, which will probably account for the relatively moderate mortality from these diseases.

The following Table shews the mortality from this class of diseases for the ten years 1885 to 1894.

Deaths from Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy:—

			1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894
Under 5	...	...	45	40	29	30	47	37	83	39	33	55
Above 5	...	...	29	27	30	32	33	37	63	48	46	38
			<u>74</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>93</u>

There have been two deaths under, and twenty-seven over five years of age in the district, and three over five in the Workhouse, (one of these latter belonged to Norton, one to Bushbury, and one to Cheslyn Hay, all in the Rural District of Cannock Union), a total of thirty-two from Heart Disease, with a ratio at per thousand of population of 1.5; against a total of twenty-three, with a ratio of 1.00 in 1893.

Injuries

Three deaths have occurred under five years of age, and six over five, in the district, and two over five, but belonging to the district, in the Workhouse; total eleven from injuries, a ratio at per thousand of population of .52; against seven, with a ratio at per thousand of .33 in the previous year; of these, three were the result of burns accidentally received, two in children and one a miner, aged 34 years, from explosion of gas in the course of his ordinary calling, one accidentally crushed by a tub at East Cannock Colliery, one from rupture of pleura in a miner, caused by drawing a tree at West Cannock Colliery, one in a woman from contusion of leg, gangrene and ultimately septicemia, resulting; one from fracture of femur

in an aged woman of 77 years ; in the Workhouse, succeeded by hypostatic pneumonia, one injury to the lung, the result of a trap accident, in a man sixty-four years of age, of West Chadsmoor ; one from strangulation in an infant of two months, by its insane mother ; one from fracture of base of skull from being ran over by a milk float, in a boy of 9 years, of Bridgtown, and one a case of suicide in a subject 84 years of age, from cut throat, in the Workhouse. All the foregoing cases belonged to the District.

All other Diseases.

From all other diseases there have been ninety-four deaths under and forty-seven over five years of age, in the district, and twenty-two over five years, in the Workhouse, total one hundred and sixty-three, a ratio of 7.76 at per thousand of population ; against a total of two hundred and twenty-two, with a death rate of 10.57 per thousand of population, in 1893.

Zymotic Diseases.

The following Table shows the number of Births with the birth-rates, also the number of Deaths with the death-rates, from the seven most prevalent Zymotic Diseases, frequently prevailing as Epidemics, for the ten years 1885 to 1894, not including Puerperal Fever.

Total Births for year—		1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894
		823	873	722	715	738	838	877	906	888	810
Birth Rate at per 1000 of population }		18.4	51.5	42.47	42.0588	42.17	41.078	42.57	43.14	42.28	40
Total Deaths from		1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894
Small Pox.....	nil	nil	nil	2	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	2
Measles	nil	19	2	3	10	2	21	nil	35	nil	
Scarlatina	5	nil	1	1	11	7	5	3	8		4
Diphtheria.....	2	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	1	nil	1	nil	
Whooping Cough	18	7	nil	3	nil	2	13	4	nil	3	
Continued Fevers—											
Typhus.....	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	
Enteric or Typhoid	1	1	nil	nil	2	2	1	2	nil	1	
Other or Doubtful	nil	nil	1	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	
Diarrhoea and Dysentery	5	3	12	14	6	19	17	19	27	8	

	1895	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894
Deaths from Zymotic Diseases...	31	30	16	23	19	32	58	19	71	18
Deaths from all other Causes	200	301	293	318	322	293	419	422	352	313
Total Deaths for each year.....	331	331	309	341	341	325	477	441	423	331
Death Rate at per 1000 from Zymotic Diseases	1.8	1.7	0.94	1.35	1.11	1.56	3.3	.9	3.38	.85
Do. all other causes	17.6	17.7	17.23	18.7	18.9	14.36	20.33	2.0	16.76	14.9
Do. all causes.....	19.4	19.4	18.17	20.0	20.0	15.93	23.15	2.1	20.14	15.76

Deaths under 5 years of age.

One hundred and sixty-seven deaths have occurred under five years of age, all in the district, a ratio at per thousand living of 7.95; against two hundred and forty five with a ratio of 11.65 per thousand in the previous year; of these, one was from Smallpox, two Scarlatina, one Croup, three Whooping-cough, six Diarrhœa, fifty-five Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy, two Heart Disease, three injuries, and ninety-four all other diseases.

Influenza.

There is one death ascribed to Pneumonia coupled with Influenza; this occurred at the very beginning of the year (Jan. 4th) at Hightown, and is the only case attributed to this disease.

Deaths in the Workhouse.

Thirty deaths occurred in the Workhouse, all over five years of age, seventeen from Cannoek and thirteen from other districts of Cannoek Union, against a total of twenty-five in 1893.

Inquests.

In twelve instances an Inquest was held, namely, in all the cases ascribed to injury, as well as one in which the death was attributed to Heart Disease, the man having been found dead in a field.

Uncertified Deaths.

The number of Deaths returned as uncertified is five; against fourteen in the previous year. Four of these were under one year of age and one over sixty-five years.

Primary Vaccinations.

From a return kindly supplied by Mr. F. G. Roach, Vaccination Officer, the Births are stated as 827 in num-

ber, successfully vaccinated 517, dead 91, removed to places unknown and in default 219; this gives a ratio of vaccinations to births of '625 against one of '61 for 1893. Mr. Roach adds a fair percentage, say, 25 per cent. of these, will most likely be vaccinated within the ensuing six months.

Sanitary Con-
dition of Green
Heath and Five
Ways.

In my Annual Reports for the two previous years, 1892 and 1893, the unfinished and undrained condition of certain portions of your District, more particularly Green Heath and Five Ways, has been referred to, and in the latter report it was stated that the work had been postponed over the winter season, as unsuitable for such work, and as the spring advanced, certain parties who appeared willing and anxious for the work to be done objected to contribute to the cost, on the ground that it would fall unduly heavily upon them: under the circumstances the work was abandoned, at least temporarily, as also the scheme for connecting the sewerage at Five Ways with the present sewers and outfall (for which levels had been taken and plans made), this however has been abandoned on the ground of its great expense and the incompetency of a certain portion of the present pipes as vehicles for the conveyance of the greatly increased amount of sewage they would be called upon to convey. Under these circumstances it has become a consideration with the present Urban District Council whether it will not be desirable to have a separate system and outfall at or near Five Ways.

Adoption of In-
fectious Disease
(Notification)
Act.

During the year your Board has adopted (1) temporarily; for one month, with the sanction of the Local Government Board, from February 24th, on the breaking out of an Epidemic of Small Pox in the District, and (2) permanently, from the 1st of June, the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act.

Additional
Water Supply.

Your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Peake, informs me that during the year 1,700 yards of additional water mains (an excess of 500 yards over last year) have been laid in

the District, viz., at Green Heath, Hednesford, Old Penkridge Road and Mill Street, Cannock; Chapel Street and Cannock Road, Five Ways; Church Street, Bridgtown, and Crab Lane, Chadsmoor, by the South Staffordshire Water Works Company. He also informs me that 120 additional houses have been supplied by this Company.

In my Annual Report for the previous year, 1893, I stated that there was some reason for congratulation that the death rate, although still too high (20·14) as against 21 for 1892, was slightly on the decline. For the year which is the subject of this report there is further reason for congratulation in the circumstance that there is a much further decline in the number of deaths over the previous year, viz., 331 with a death rate of 15·76 against 423 with a death rate of 20·14 for 1893.

Appended are the Local Government Board's Tables A and B, also your Sanitary Inspector's Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN C. BLACKFORD

Cannock, April 5th, 1895.

APPENDIX.

Area of District in Acres	...	...	8,009
Population as per Census 1891	...	...	20,613
No. of Houses in District at end of 1893	...	...	3,886 }
Newly erected during 1894	...	...	48 }
			—3934

CANNOCK URBAN S

(A) *TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1894, in the Urban Sanitary District of Cannock*

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics : public institutions being shown as separate localities.	MORTALITY FROM ALL CAUSES, AT SUPPOSED AGES.							MORTALITY FROM SPECIFIC CAUSES.					
	At all Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.	Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.		
	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	1	2	3	4
CANNOCK (U.S.D.)	299	130	36	8	12	64	49	Under 5 5 upwds.		2	12		1
WORKHOUSE.	30				1	5	24	Under 5 5 upwds.					
SMALL POX HOSPITAL.	2	1				1		Under 5 5 upwds.	1	1			
Totals ... {	331	131	36	8	13	70	73	Under 5 5 upwds.	1	2	2		1

(B) *TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES during the year 1894, in the Urban Sanitary District of Cannock*

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming						
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1894.		Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.		
	a	b		c	d	e	1	2	3	4	5
CANNOCK (U.S.D.) II	20613	21000	840	Under 5 5 upwds.		18 44				
WORKHOUSE				Under 5 5 upwds.						
SMALL POX HOSPITAL.				Under 5 5 upwds.	2 21					
TOTALS {	20613	21000	840	Under 5 5 upwds.	2 21	18 44				

ARY AUTHORITY.

et of Cannoek; classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES

ED CAUSES, DISTINGUISHING DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE														
Relapsing	Puerperal	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhoea and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Ague.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	TOTALS.
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
					3	6	1			55	2	3	94	166
						1	1		12	36	27	6	47	133
						1				2	3	2	22	30
														1
														1
					3	6				55	2	3	94	167
						2	1		12	38	30	8	69	164

SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during ssified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

e of the Medical Officer of Health.						NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.		
Relapsing.	Puerperal	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia.	Smallpox	...	2 (Under 5).
8	9	10	11	12	13	"	...	21 (5 upwds.).
			1	1	11			
			12		49			
					4			
			1	1	11			
			12		53			

II.—The Locality in which the Small Pox Hospital is situate.

REPORT
OF
THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
TO THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CANNOCK,
For the Year 1894.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my third Annual Report of the work carried out in my department for the year ended December 31st, 1894.

During the year I and my Assistant have made 3,207 inspections of premises throughout the District, and have detected 296 nuisances of various descriptions, the particulars of which are appended in the Summary to this Report. In compliance with Section 94 of the Public Health Act, 1875, preliminary and legal notices were served for the abatement of the nuisances, of which 292 have been satisfactorily complied with. The remaining 4 nuisances, which are carried forward on the books, could not be abated owing to severe frosts. The work has been put in the hands of builders, and will be commenced as soon as the weather permits.

For your convenience I have given statistics showing the various description of nuisances which have been abated during the above period. Also particulars of the precautions taken against infectious disease, and the number of new buildings erected during the year.

During the year periodical inspections have been made by me over the whole of the District as to the condition
Water Supply.

of the water used for drinking and domestic purposes, also as to the sufficiency of such supply. My attention has more particularly been given to the more populous parts of the district where there existed shallow wells which contained an insufficient supply of water during certain parts of the year. I had correspondence with the property owners, informing them of the necessity of such supply, which were acknowledged, and in several cases the South Staffordshire Company's Water laid on. Other property owners communicated with are willing to take the South Staffordshire Company's Water, but this Company decline to extend their mains until they can get sufficient number of houses to take the water to pay them for their outlay. In one case I have served a notice upon Messrs. Gardner and Sons, to close a dangerous well situate at West Chadsmoor, which has been satisfactorily complied with. I am pleased to report that the South Staffordshire Water Works Company have made provisions by extending their water mains in various parts of the district, which will enable the property owners to have their connections made, and the necessary supply provided. In one part of the district where the mains have been laid, tenants had to obtain their supply from the Conduit pump, about a quarter of a mile away, and in winter, when the pumps were frozen, had to get a supply from their neighbours.

During the year the South Staffordshire Water Works Company have supplied 120 houses with their water, and have laid 1,700 yards of additional water mains in various parts of the District, viz;—

Green Heath, Hednesford.
 Old Penkridge Road, Cannock.
 Mill Street, Cannock.
 Chapel Street, Five Ways.
 Cannock road, Five Ways.
 Church Street, Bridgtown.
 Crab Lane, Chadsmoor.

The different parts of the District still without the Company's water mains are:—West Chadsmoor, Pye Green Road, and Cannock Wood. These localities, with the exception of West Chadsmoor, only contain at present a limited number of houses, and are a considerable distance from populated places, where the mains are laid, thus offering at present no facility for their extension. The only means of water supply to the houses are wells and pumps, from which good water can be obtained, and a sufficient supply.

Arrangements are being made by the South Staffordshire Water Works Company for the extension of their mains at West Chadsmoor, and it is expected that, ultimately, this work will be carried out, and the houses supplied in the locality.

House Drainage

During the year my attention has been given to the supervision of the laying of drains at the houses erected in various parts of the district. Many new ones have been built on private streets at Cannock, Bridgtown, and Five Ways, where the sewers have not yet been laid, and the streets made. The only means of connections to these drains is Cesspools, which are objectionable in many respects. The property owners will be willing to abolish these, and make their connections with the main sewers when laid down.

The total number of nuisances discovered of various descriptions, in connection with the drainage, is 66, the particulars of which will be found under the heading of House Drainage in the statistics given. Thirty-five of the above number are new drains laid to houses erected in the District, which have been carried out to my satisfaction. Other nuisances found were defective drains and traps, and these were remedied by their re-construction. For the abatement of these nuisances they were reported to you, and the usual notices served, and the

work satisfactorily carried out. During my inspection of the drains several instances have occurred where large articles have been found in the pipes, and the sewage back-bounded upon the premises. Communications were made to the property owners and the the complaints remedied.

At Five Ways two houses were built by Mr. Herbert Foster, and allowed to be occupied before any provision was made for drainage and privy accommodation. This was reported to you, and a legal notice served upon the owner to carry out the works in accordance with his approved plans, and the bye-laws, but could not be done owing to the severe frost.

The following is a list of Private Streets in various parts of the District, upon which a considerable number of houses are built, where no provision is made for connection with sewers :—

Chapel Street	}	Five Ways, Heath Hayes.
Stafford „		
Bank „		
Blewitt Street	}	Green Heath.
Abbey „		
Moreton Street		
John „	}	Chadsmoor.
Arthur „		
Cecil „		
Church „		
Church Street	}	Bridgtown (West).
New „		
Caxton Street, Cannock.		

During the year frequent inspections have been made throughout the District, for the purpose of ascertaining the general condition of privies and ashpits. Sixty-four nuisances of various descriptions have been detected, the particulars of which will be found in the statistics given. In many instances privies and ashpits were found to be in such a dilapidated condition as to necessitate pulling down, and constructing new ones. In other cases the accommodation was insufficient, and several found too near the dwellings. The usual notices

Privies and
Ashpits

were served and the work satisfactorily carried out. In better-class houses many earth closets have been converted into water-closets, and the drains connected with the main sewers under my supervision.

Night Soil Removal

During the year the removal of Night Soil was undertaken by the contractor, Mr. Blewitt, at a cost of £400. Owing to the increased number of houses erected, which was an additional expense upon the contractor to cleanse the ashpits, extra remuneration was granted in proportion to the number of houses upon the rate book, which amounted to the sum of £2 2s 2¹/2 per quarter. During the year, the Contractor has emptied 2,915 ashpits, inspections were made of the work, and those which were found not satisfactory, the attention of the Contractor was called and the complaint remedied. I have to report that throughout my inspections the work has generally been found satisfactory. Several complaints were made by the Contractor of the difficulty he had in cleansing the ashpits containing brick-ends and other trade refuse thrown in by the tenants. The people were cautioned as to the improper use of the ashpits, and the practice has to a large extent diminished.

Slaughter Houses

The total number of Slaughter Houses on the register is 23. During the year periodical inspections of these have been made by me as to their condition, and the necessary instructions given to the butchers for the removal of offal, white-washing, ventilation, and the general cleanliness of the Slaughter Houses. I am pleased to report that my instructions have been carried out, and upon inspection were found satisfactory.

Meat Inspection

During the year visits have been made by the Medical Officer and myself of the Slaughter Houses, Market Halls, and Butchers' shops in the District, and inspected the meat intended for human food. I am pleased to report that none was found unfit for food on any of the Butchers' premises. On August 28th I made a seizure of three-quarters of beef, hanging up in

a wooden shed, belonging to John Sellman, of Five Ways. The meat was purchased at Lichfield, and intended for sale among private customers. The Medical Officer was called in, and the same condemned. The meat was taken before the Magistrate, and an order given to destroy it. A summons was issued against Sellman, and a fine of £5 and costs was inflicted.

Urinals

The number of Urinals belonging to the Council is 4, which are situated at Hednesford and Cannock. During the year these were regularly cleansed, disinfected, and periodically flushed.

General Condition of Dwellings

During the year regular inspections have been made as to the general condition of the inside of Dwellings. I have directed my attention more specially during the outbreak of Small-Pox to the general cleanliness of the occupants and Living Rooms. The particulars of my inspection will be found in the statistics given under the above heading. During my inspection many nuisances were found of the description of common brick sinks, which were in such a dilapidated condition as to necessitate pulling down. I advised the property owners in all cases to fix earthenware sinks instead of brick ones. I am pleased to report that this has been done to a large extent, and have been fixed in many new houses. In some parts of the district many improvements have been carried out by the owners to their properties. Several wash-houses which were low and built with 4½ inch walls, have been pulled down and new ones erected in accordance with approved plans, and the byelaws. Considerable area of unpaved yards has been paved with paving bricks, spouting provided, and other improvements made to give every comfort and convenience to the tenants. I am pleased to report that generally I have had very little cause for complaint, and upon my inspection every assistance was given me by the tenants, and the nuisances abated by the property owners without taking any legal proceedings.

OUTBREAK OF SMALL-POX.

At the commencement of the year Small-pox broke out in various parts of the District, and during the first three months 21 cases were removed into the hospital. The patients were nursed by the caretakers at the hospital, and attended by Dr. Blackford, Medical Officer of Health. Out of the above number of cases two patients died, one adult and one child, and were buried at the expense of the Board. The other patients recovered, and were dismissed by the Medical Officer as soon as the time of their convalescence had expired. In May a second outbreak occurred, but only four cases were received into the Hospital, and two of these came from the Rural District. In July all patients had been dismissed from the Hospital, and no more cases were received during the year. The following is a list of the number of cases received from various parts of the District :—

Part of District.	No. of Cases.
New Street, Hightown	13
Five Ways, Heath Hayes	1
Cannock Union	1
Huntington Terrace	1
Parke's Building, Broomhill	1
Penkridge Road, Cannock	3
Wedges Mills	1
Rugeley Road, Hednesford	1
Littleworth Hill, Hednesford... ..	1
Hatherton (Rural District)	1
Great Wyrley (Rural District)	1
—Total 25	

After the removal of the Patients to the Hospital my Assistant undertook the fumigating and disinfecting of the rooms which had been used by the Patients. Three beds were destroyed, and in one instance compensation of £1 was given to the owner, who had no means of purchasing another one in its place. The rooms were stoved for 24 hours, and afterwards white-washed and cleansed by

the occupier, to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health. I am pleased to report that the Caretakers have at all times kept the Hospital in clean condition, and attended to the Patients in a very excellent manner. The duties which were at times considerably heavy, owing to the severe illness of many of the Patients, were satisfactorily carried out, and everything made for the comfort of the Patients.

The following is a list of New Buildings which have been erected during the year :

Descriptions of Buildings.	Nos.
Houses	48
Wash Houses	3
Billiard Room	1
Surgery	1
Bake House	1
Shops	4
Workshops	1
Foundry	1
Drill Hall	1
Additions to Buildings ...	5
Cowshed and Stabling... ..	2
Chimney Stack	1
<hr/>	
Total	69

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN PEAKE,

Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,

Canneek, April, 1895.

SANITARY WORK FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31ST, 1894.

<i>Description of Nuisances.</i>		<i>No. of Nuisances reported.</i>	<i>Formal Notices by Authority.</i>	<i>Prelimin- ary Notices.</i>	<i>Nuisances abated after Notice.</i>
Dwelling Houses	Structural defects ...	26		26	26
	Filthy conditions ...	10	6	4	10
	Overcrowding ...	5	5		5
	Unfit for habitation...	1	1		1
House Drainage	Cleansing of Drains..	6		6	6
	Defective traps ...	9	3	6	9
	Defective drains ...	10	10		10
	No drainage ...	42	2	40	42
Privy and Ashpit Accommo- dation	Privies too close to Dwellings ... }	5	5		5
	Insufficient Privy & ashpit accommo- dation ... }	2	2		2
	Re-construction of privies & Ashpits }	36	11	25	34
	Accumulation of refuse ...	2	2		2
	Polluted wells closed ...	3	3		3
	Stagnant water in ashpits...	15	6	9	13
	Stagnant water in cellars...	1	1		1
	Bad construction of Pigstyes and too close to dwellings ... }	3		3	3
	Paved areas out of repair...	2		2	2
	Removal of improper urinals ...	1	1		1
	Conversion of earth closets into water closets ... }	4	4		4
	Removal of defective water closets	1	1		1
	Whitewashing and cleansing slaughter houses ... }	112		112	112
	Canal boats infringement of the acts, (see special report) }	25		25	25
	Ashpits cleansed —2,915				
TOTALS		321	63	258	317

FOOD SUPPLY AND WATER.

Seizure of unwholesome food, 1 | Houses supplied with water, 120

PRECAUTION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Lots of infected bedding stored or destroyed 3
 Houses fumigated and disinfected after infectious disease 19
 Houses whitewashed and cleansed during epidemic of Smallpox 120

CANNOCK URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

CANAL BOATS ACT 1877 and 1884.

Annual Report of Inspector

For Year ended December 31st, 1894

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report of the work carried out under the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884, for the year ended December 31st, 1894. During the year I and my Assistant have visited the Coal Wharves at East Cannock and Walk Mill (and upon several occasions the Locks at Churchbridge, Wedges Mills, and Leacroft, for inspection of any boats which may be passing through, but none were found). My visits have more particularly been made to the wharves referred to, where the boat trade is chiefly carried on.

Seventeen visits were made to the East Cannock Wharf, 15 visits to Walk Mill Wharf, and 1 visit to the Locks at Wedges Mills during the year, and inspected and reported to my Board a total number of 85 Cabin Boats.

In my opinion the decreased number of boats inspected is due to the bad condition of the coal trade in the district, as I have upon several occasions found no Cabin Boats at either of the Wharves.

The infringements of the Acts which came under our notice were:—

	NOS.
New Certificates required	4
Absence of Certificates	5
Cleanliness	7
Repairing and Painting of Cabins	5
Provision of Water Cask	2
Marking	1
Male over age	1
Total	25

The above complaints have all been satisfactorily remedied without the necessity of any legal proceedings. During the inspections several

cases have occurred with respect to new Certificates being required. The certificates which the masters produced were worn out, and the writing indistinct, and upon my suggestions they obtained new ones. In others the certificates were not produced, they had been taken away for safety by the masters. I have had to call the attention of the masters in several cases to the uncleanly condition of their cabins, and to request them to have the same cleared. I am glad to say that on a second inspection by me these were found satisfactory.

On October 16th an inspection of a Cabin Boat belonging to Mr. Halling was made, and a male, 16 years of age, was travelling with his parents. Upon making enquiries of the master he said they did not sleep in the cabin, as they lived at Wolverhampton, and returned home every night. He also said his wife had not travelled on the boat before, but she had been ill, and he had brought her out for a voyage. He was informed of the provisions of the Act, and mentioned not to, in future, carry his wife on the boat for fear it may be necessary to sleep in the cabin. He assured me that his wife should not travel on the boat again.

During the year the total number of occupants of the boats inspected were as set out in the following summary. The number of children found on the boats has considerably decreased, as compared with my Report of the previous year. Many of these were under the age for attending school. I find a great improvement has taken place with regard to the education of the children, and upon making enquiries about those of school age, was informed that the children did attend school when at home.

Summary of the number of occupants found on Canal Boats during the year:—

MONTH.			MALES.	FEMALES.	CHILDREN.
January	...	...	16	2	1
February	...	...	8	2	2
March...	...	...	9	6	4
April ...	...	...	13	4	6
May ...	...	...	12	2	2
June ...	...	...	19	3	2
July ...	...	...	9	1	1
August	...	...	7	2	—
September	...	...	16	3	3
October	...	...	7	8	1
November	...	...	21	2	1
December	...	...	—	—	—
Totals ..			137	35	23

During my inspections of the Cabins I have directed my attention more especially to the cleanliness, as well as the health and general condition of the occupants. I have, in one or two cases, called the attention of the parents to the uncleanly condition of the children, but have generally found both the occupants and the cabins clean. I am pleased to report that no cases of sickness or infectious disease was met with during the year.

I have again pleasure in reporting that during my inspections I have received marked civility from the masters, and my duties have been considerably lightened by the courteous treatment I have received.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN PEAKE,

Inspector of Canal Boats.

Sanitary Inspector's Office,

Cannock,

January 14th, 1895.

